

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the notification of allowable subject matter, i.e. that claim 4, 5 and 7 would be allowable if re-written in independent form. New independent claims 14 and 15 recite subject matter of claims 7 and 4 respectively.

An Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under separate cover.

Claims 1, 6 and 8 have been amended, and claims 14-20 have been added. No new matter has been added by virtue of the amendments. For instance, support for the amendments of claims 1, 6 and 8 appears e.g. at page 8, lines 7-10 of the application. Support for the new claims appears e.g. at page 6, lines 18-22 and the original claims of the application.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 8-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 over Arensmeier (U.S. Patent 5725368). The rejection is traversed.

The Arensmeier document fails to disclose Applicants' claimed invention.

For example, independent claims 1, 6 and 8 call for that electric resistance igniter is controlled so as to maintain the electric resistance igniter at an operational temperature that is less than the gas ignition temperature but above room temperature. This is a preferred aspect of Applicants' claimed systems and can enable rapid ignition. See pages 6 and 17 of the application.

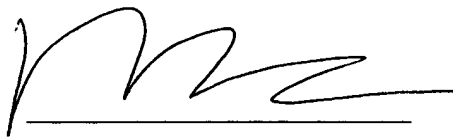
The Arensmeier document does not describe such a system that is maintained above room temperature.

As mentioned above, independent claims 14 and 15 recite subject matter of dependent claims 7 and 4 respectively, which dependent claims were indicated to be allowable.

In view thereof, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.. See, for instance, *In re Marshall*, 198 USPQ 344, 346 (CCPA 1978) (“[r]ejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 are proper only when the claimed subject matter is identically disclosed or described in the prior art.”).

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter F. Corless', written over a horizontal line.

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